the National Vocational Training Institute (.Women's wing);

(el whether i| is a Cad that diplomas be awarded t_G the trainees 'at the of the course as no practical work has been covered;

(d) if so. wheher any responsibility en fixed in this regard; and

(e, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) (a I yes, Sir.

[1] The course "Data Preparation .nil" which ha_s been started at the ma] Vocational Training Institute for ten. New Delhi does not need an exclusive computer. The off-line terminals needed for imparting the. training have installed. The limited exposure to the computer needed for operating the tie programme prepared by the has been provided by talcing the S to other computer installations.

Since the required practical training been provided to the trainees, the ion of not awarding the certificates to the successful trainees at the end of the does not arise. A_s envisaged I the scheme, arrangements are being made for providing 6 months on the job in computer installations after the competition Of six months of institutional training.

(d) and (e) In view of the above, the question of fixing the responsibility and taking further action does not arise.

Model Law on Consumer Protection

1593. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES he pleased to State.

whether Government have recently 11 a Model Law o_n Consumer Picon for $adopti_{on}$ by all the States and on Territories:

(b) if so. what are the salient features thereof: and

(c) by when it i_s to b_e given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN I III MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA); (a) No, Sir.

(b) The dr aft model law on consume) protection to be adopted by the States provides for setting up a Consumer Pro tection Council, Directorate of Consumers' Affairs and a Consumer Dispute Redi Forum. The objectives of the proposed measures is t_0 protect and promote con sumer interest and provide for a forum lor speedy and inexpensive redressal of grievances of consumers. The Consumer Protection Council shall promote and protect the rights of the consumer such $_{as}$ right to safety, right to be informed, right to choose, right to be heard and right ^{to} seek redressal against unscrupu lous exploitation of consumers by some manufacturers|traders. The Council will undertake programmes for providing in formation and education to consumers and development of consumer protection movement. The Directorate of Consumer Affairs will be an executive arm to receive consumers' complaints and to act on them. The Consumer $Disput_e$ Redressal Forum will be a quasi-judicial machinery for speedy and inexpensive settlement of consumer disputes.

(c) The law will be applied after com pleting the legislative process.

Price tagging of goods

1594. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased, to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that customers are often cheated by the shopkeepers in two ways, firstly the goods are sold in loose form and not in packages and secondly there is no price tag on the goods put on sale for the benefit of th_e prospective buy-ers

(b) whether Government are also aware that even the items which are put on 'grand sale' do not carry the price tags indicating the original prices and price cut on these articles and such sales benefit only the shopkeepers; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken so as to make price tagging compulsory?

THE MINISTER OF STA1E IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 as well as the Standards of Weights & Measures Act, 1976 do not prohibit the traders to sell essential commodities in loose form. However, under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 in everciee of the powers delegated, the States/Union Territories have issued Price Display Orders in res-pect of Essential Commodities specified in their respective Orders. Violation of the Price Display Orders invite stringent penal provisions under the Essential Commodities Act. If the commodities are sold in packages, in terms of provisions of Standards of Weights and Measures fPackaged Commodities) Rules, 1977, it is mandatory for each manufacturer to indicate on such packaged commodities its identity, net contents, date of packing, name of manufacture/packer and the sale price which is intended to protect the consumer from over-charging. Violation of the Commodities Rule.', 1977 invites penal provisions. There is no provision under the Essential Commo-U8.es Act. 1955 to direct any trader who puts up articles on 'grand sale' *to* attach pric$_e$ fags specifying the original price and the sale price. The Central Government has been advising the States/Union Territories from time to time for vigorous implementation of the Price Display Orders. Since the States/Union Ter-ifories are enforcing price disnlny orders, the question of making compulsory does not arise.

Evasion of excise duty by golden Tobacco Company

1593. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE he pleased to state

fa) whether it is a fact that the Golden Tobacco Company has been found evading huge excise duty by not printing the prices of cigarettes manufactured by them;

(b) if so, what is the estimated amount of excise duty evaded by the company during the last three y«ars, year-wise; and

(c) whether any action is being taken by Government for the recovery of the evaded excise duty, and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Evasion of excise duty by voltes Ltd.

1596. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a whether Government's attention been drawn to the press report which peared in the 'Times of India" of the 18th Feburary, 1986 to the effect that a nuiltinat'onal company, Voltas limited has been found to have evaded duty to the tune of Rs. 3 erores;

(b) if so. what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government against the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE 'MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

,(b) and (c) A large number of in criminating documents have been seized from the office premises of the company from which it appears that the company has evaded central excise duty of a substantial amount. The documents in-ated complicity on the part of several senior of the Company in the matter of duty evasion and they were ar rested. The prosecution complaint "1st the Company and the officers is being field in the shortly.